

Message Text

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71

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 SCI-06 NSF-04 ABF-01

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 /199 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1003

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UNCLAS GENEVA 4154

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: 55TH ECOSOC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENDA ITEM 10

KENYAN PROPOSALS

REF: GENEVA 4145, STATE 154953

SUMMARY: KENYA INTRODUCED PROPOSALS TRANSMITTED REFTEL AUGUST 6
IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE. ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD NOT PRESS
FOR ANY DECISIONS AT THIS SESSION. END SUMMARY.

1. IN INTRODUCING ITS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT RES. II
(E/5272) KENYA ARGUED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM WOULD (A) PROVIDE BEST WAY TO IMPLEMENT
WORLD PLAN OF ACTION (B) INSURE THAT CONSIDERATIONS OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY WERE PROPERLY INCORPORATED INTO RELEVANT
UN ACTIVITIES. S & T PROGRAM SHOULD BE MODELED ON UNEP.
NOTING THAT SECRETARIAT WOULD BE INITIALLY CONSTITUTED BY
AMALGAMATION OF R & T DIVISION AND OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KENYA EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IT MIGHT ALSO INCLUDE
DIVISION FOR OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS. AS TO FUNCTIONS TO BE
PERFORMED BY THE COMBINED SECRETARIAT, THESE WOULD COVER WHAT
THEY ARE DOING NOW. THEY WOULD ALSO UNDERTAKE NEW FUNCTIONS
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SUCH AS ASSISTING THE LDCS TO ESTABLISH S & T POLICIES AND

PROGRAMS, SCIENCE EDUCATION AND BUILDING UP A SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF S & T. WOULD ALSO ASSIST IN STUDIES ON AND IN IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. RELATIONS AS BETWEEN THE S & T PROGRAM AND THE REST OF THE UN SYSTEM WOULD BE "MORE OR LESS ON THE SAME LINES" AS OBTAIN FOR UNEP. RELATIONS WITH UNDP WOULD BE "MORE SUBTLE" SINCE BOTH WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. RELATIONS WITH UNESCO WOULD NEED PARTICULAR DEFINITION. LATE IN ITS STATEMENT KENYA EXPLAINED THAT THE S & T PROGRAM SHOULD MAINLY COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UN SYSTEM IN THE FIELD OF S & T BUT SHOULD ALSO PIONEER NEW AREAS OF ACTIVITY NOT NEW ENGAGED IN BY EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS.

2. KENYA ALSO STATED THAT IT ENVISAGED AMALGAMATION OF COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND POSSIBLY OF COMMITTEE ON OUTER SPACE TO EMERGE AS THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE S & T PROGRAM. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE S & T PROGRAM WOULD HAVE THE SAME STATUS AND POSITION IN THE UN SYSTEM AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP. AS WITH UNEP THE S & T PROGRAM SHOULD REPORT TO THE GA THROUGH ECOSOC. AS REGARDS THE PROPOSED S & T VOLUNTARY FUND, KENYA NOTED THE CREATION OF VARIOUS SPECIAL UN FUNDS IN RECENT YEARS AND COMMENTED THAT AN S & T FUND WOULD BE MORE MEANINGFUL TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. ON SUGGESTION OF THE CHAIR KENYA AGREED TO DIVORCE ITS PROPOSAL FROM DRAFT RESOLUTION II AND TO SUBMIT COMPLETELY SEPARATE RESOLUTION STANDING ON ITS OWN. KENYA ALSO STATED THAT ITS RESOLUTION COULD BE PUT ON THE AGENDA FOR RESUMED 55TH ECOSOC OR FOR 56TH SESSION. SEVERAL SPEAKERS DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION OF ITEM 10, WHO FOLLOWED KENYAN INTRODUCTION (INCLUDING US), CONFIRMED THEMSELVES TO TAKING NOTE OF KENYAN PROPOSALS AND INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR POSTPONING MATTER TO 56TH SESSION RATHER THAN TO RESUMED 55TH SESSION.

4. COMMENT: WE HAVE PRIVATELY TOLD KENYAN AMBASSADOR THAT IN ITS PRESENT FORM HIS PROPOSALS TOO SWEEPING AND BOUND TO AROUSE WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION. AS REPORTED ABOVE HE UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS ALREADY STATED IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE THAT MATTER NOT BEING PRESSED AT THIS SESSION (LIKELIHOOD IS THAT ITEM WILL BE REMANDED TO 56TH SESSION.) WE HAVE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT COURSE MORE LIKELY TO BE BROADLY ACCEPTABLE WOULD BE TO FOCUS INITIALLY ON AMALGAMATION OF R & T DIVISION AND OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH IDEA HAS GOOD ADMINISTRATIVE BASE IN AMS RECOMMENDATIONS AND ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CNR AND CSTD. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT ODAWO-JERI MAY

BE AMENABLE TO MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION AND WE HOPE
TO CONTINUE WORKING ON HIM TO THIS END.BASSIN

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